



Veterans' Newsletter

May 2019

The purpose of this newsletter is to inform veterans of the various programs, workshops and services available to the veteran community, along with items of interest. Each issue will strive to keep veterans apprised of any changes in state and federal veterans' programs, along with events occurring locally. Your feedback on what you would like to see covered will always be welcomed.

News from the AD Works VETS Program

Veteran ONLY Networking Event at AD Works!

This monthly event is designed to place highly qualified veteran job seekers and military spouses in front of employers that are hiring. The environment is informal so that the veterans and spouses can be given immediate feedback on their networking skills, resume quality, and qualifications for the available jobs. It is less of a job fair, and more of an instructional job skill development workshop. The Networking Event for January will be held on June 25th from 930 am to 1230pm at the Centennial offices of A/D Works! Please contact Regional Veteran Employment Representative, Marty Bangert at 303 636-1253, to answer your questions and or to reserve a seat.

The Vets' Corner

The A/D Works! Workforce Center has a designated area for veteran related information, to include, job fair postings, reading material from the various military related organizations, like the American Legion, VFW, and the DAV. Vets' can also find contact information for other resources in addition to employment opportunities.



VA News

New Mission at the VA is Service

By Debbie Gregory @ Military Connection

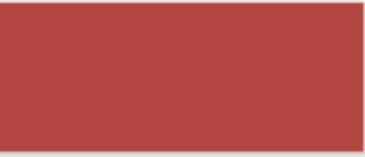
There is a new plan in the works to make customer service at the VA priority one. “The VA is about serving veterans,” stated VA Secretary Robert Wilkie, “My prime directive is customer service.” And customer service is what Wilkie is confident should improve under the VA Mission Act, which was recently signed into law. Increased funding as a result of the Mission Act, which is projected to cost more than \$50 billion over five years, should alleviate many of the problems associated with the previous Choice Program. Wilkie, a former Assistant Secretary of Defense under President George W. Bush, is tasked with delivering on President Trump’s campaign promises to fire ineffective VA employees and steer more patients to the private sector.

VA Burial and Plot Interment Allowance

U. S. Department of Veteran Affairs



VA burial allowances are flat rate monetary benefits. They help cover eligible Veterans’ burial and funeral costs. Generally, they are paid at the maximum amount allowed by law. VA may grant additional benefits after receiving a claim. These include plot or interment allowance and transportation allowance. Apply by filling out VA Form 21P-530, “Application for Burial Benefits.” You can find the form at <https://www.vba.va.gov/pubs/forms/VBA-21p-530-ARE.pdf>. Attach a copy of the deceased’s discharge document and a death certificate. Attach a receipt if you are claiming transportation expenses. Mail your application to the VA regional benefit office in your state. For more information, call 800 827-1000.



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In Other Veteran Related News

Veterans and Military Business Owners Association (VAMBOA)

VAMBOA is a non-profit trade association with more than 7,000 members. The association works to ensure the development, growth and prosperity of veteran owned businesses, service disabled veteran owned businesses and military businesses of all sizes. The VAMBOA website is full of important resources and valuable links for veteran and military business owners who are starting or growing their businesses. To find out more or sign up for complimentary membership, go to www.VAMBOA.org.

Human Hug Project

It is always a good time to hug a veteran. After all a hug is love wrapped up in arms. So says the Human Hug Project, the vet hugging team of veterans and volunteers, offering a hug to any veteran they see who wants or needs one. On their mission to spread awareness of PTSD, the vet hugging team founded by Ian Michael, a veteran of Operation Iraqi Freedom, Gino Greganti, a veteran of Operation Enduring Freedom, and Erin Greganti, a Marine Corps wife who experienced war and its aftermath at home, has visited VA medical centers across the country. To learn more about their great work, visit them at www.HumanHugsProject.org.

Cisco Offers Military Veterans Free Cybersecurity Training

By Gena Pirtle

As part of their ongoing efforts to empower and connect military veterans interested in working in the tech field, Cisco's Veterans Program is excited to announce the Cisco Veterans Cyber Scholarship Program is now accepting applications. Part of



CyberVetsUSA, the Cisco-led, skills-to-job consortium, the Cisco Veterans Cyber Scholarship Program provides free online cybersecurity training and certification to veterans, transitioning service members, National Guard members, Reservists, and military spouses. Designed to give military veterans and their spouses the skills and training they need to join the high demand field of cybersecurity, CyberVetsUSA, prepares learners for careers as security analysts, digital forensics analysts, network auditors, and more. To be accepted into the program, candidates take a brief skills assessment and select their desired career track, choosing between two Cisco Certificated tracks, either CCNA Security or CCNA Cyber Ops. While there are no prerequisites required to enroll, candidates are highly encouraged to have some foundational IT/Networking experience i.e., A+, Network+, CCNA. If you have questions or would like more information about the CyberVetsUSA program, please email cybervets@cisco.com.

Honoring the Military Service of Native Americans

Plans are in the works for a National Native American Veterans Memorial at the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, DC. The memorial will be built on the Mall. Congress approved the memorial in 1994, but did not authorize fundraising for it until 2013. The memorial is scheduled to be unveiled on Veterans Day.

Job Search Advice

Transitioning From Service to Startup

By Brian Robin @ U.S. Veterans Magazine

You have reached a turning point in your military career. You are transitioning from active duty to civilian and are considering business ownership as your next move. Regardless of where you



are in the entrepreneurial process, toying with a few business concepts or ready to execute your business plan, the Small Business Administration (SBA) and its partner network are ready to support you. Let your process begin with “Boots to Business”, a free entrepreneurship training course offered by the SBA. Already completed your transition but still want to take the course? Boots to Business Reboot brings the course off military installations and into your community. Get in touch with your local Veterans Business Outreach Center (VBOC) for upcoming course dates. VBOCs can also provide you with business advice/recommendations and connect you with other business counselors, training programs, and referrals in the SBA network. To learn more about the SBA’s Veteran programs, visit <http://sba.gov/veterans>.

Significant days and observances for the United States Armed Forces in May.

National Military Appreciation Month (All Month)



National Military Appreciation Month, as designated by Congress, provides a period encompassing both the history and recognition of our Armed Services with an in-depth look at the diversity of its individuals and achievements. It allows Americans to educate each generation on the historical impact of our military through the participation of the community with those who serve encouraging patriotism and love for America.

May 1st – Silver Star Service Banner Day – Silver Star Service Banner Day was created by the Silver Star families of America, and organization dedicated to honoring and supporting wounded, ill, and injured veterans of all branches of the Armed Forces.

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May 8th – VE Day – Victory in Europe Day, commemorates the date when the Allies formally accepted the surrender of the Armed Forces of Nazi Germany.

May 16th - Armed Forces Day - The day set aside to pay tribute to the men and women currently serving on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces.

Memorial Day – Last Monday in May – Honors our fallen military brothers and sisters. Originated as Decoration Day after the American Civil War in 1868 and established as a time for the nation to decorate the graves of the Union war dead with flowers.

We are here for you

We view this newsletter as a way to talk to veterans and find out what their needs are. I, along with the other members of the Arapahoe/Douglas Works VETS team are here for you. If you would like more information on the veteran services available at our Workforce Center, please contact one of us:

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